

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 21, 2001

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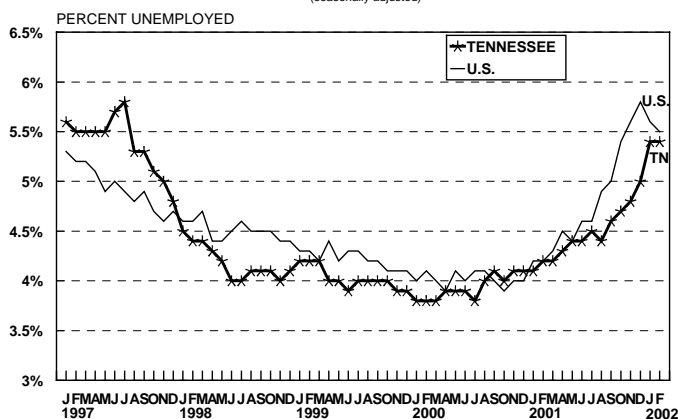
NASHVILLE—Tennessee’s unemployment rate for the month of February is 5.4 percent, remaining the same as the January figure, Commissioner of Labor & Workforce Development Michael E. Magill announced today. The state rate remains below the February national rate of 5.5 percent.

“Tennessee’s employment picture was fairly typical of February,” Magill said. “Seasonal increases in construction, services, and educational services were partially offset by seasonal declines in retail trade and transportation.”

January to February figures showed employment increased in services by 3,600 due to increases in hotels, personal services, and amusement/recreational services. Construction jobs were also on the increase in February, up by 1,200 jobs. Retail trade declined by 3,000 jobs, and transportation declined by 1,100 jobs. Manufacturing lost 1,200 due to declines in primary metals, electronic equipment, apparel, and printing/publishing. Federal government increased 1,300 with increases due to the tax season (IRS), and state and local government educational services recorded seasonal increases in student workers and substitute teachers.

From February 2001 to February 2002, services grew by 20,500; local government added 3,300 jobs; and finance, insurance, and real estate increased by 1,900. Major decreases took place in manufacturing, down by 20,800 jobs, with losses of 13,700 in durable goods and 7,100 in nondurable goods manufacturing. Transportation declined by 5,500, construction lost 2,300 jobs, and the durable goods sector of wholesale trade lost 2,700.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - U.S. & TENNESSEE
JANUARY 1997 - PRESENT
(seasonally adjusted)



LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SUMMARY - TENNESSEE

February 2002 (preliminary) - BM2001

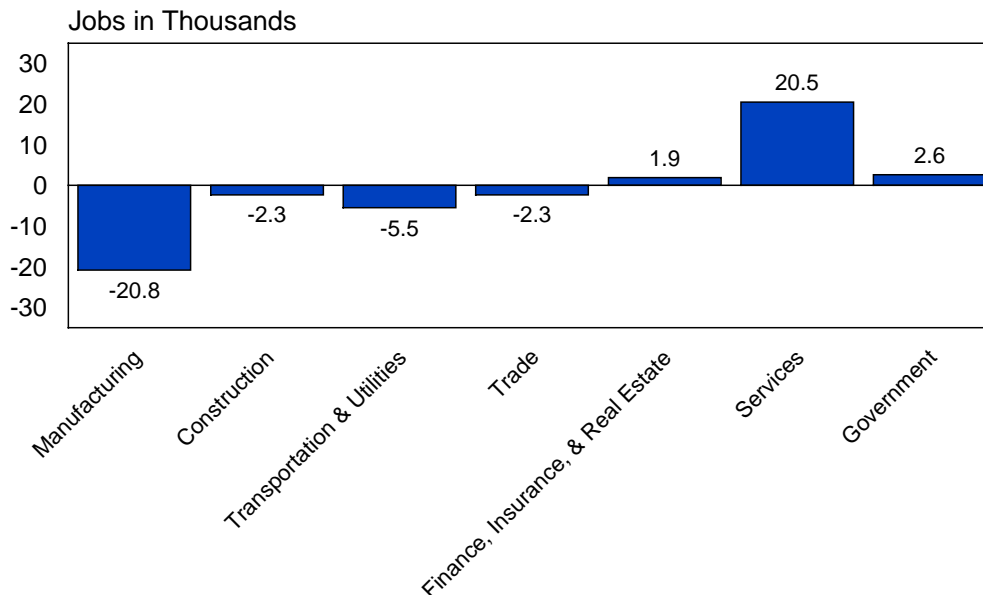
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate		Rate Change
				Feb.	Jan.	
UNITED STATES	142,210,000	134,319,000	7,891,000	5.5 %	5.6 %	-0.1 %
TENNESSEE	2,897,600	2,742,200	155,400	5.4	5.4	0.0

Not Seasonally Adjusted

UNITED STATES	142,056,000	133,349,000	8,707,000	6.1 %	6.3 %	-0.2 %
TENNESSEE	2,863,800	2,703,000	160,800	5.6	6.0	-0.4

OVER THE YEAR JOB CHANGES

By Major Industry (February 2001-2002)



County and MSA rates will be released on Thursday, March 28, 2002.

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(02-038)

NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "<http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd>". Sound may be obtained from the Governor's NewsLine at 1-800-342-1483 or Nashville area 741-4877.

NOTE: Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los Servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.